

CALIFORNIA STATE LANDS COMMISSION

100 Howe Avenue, Suite 100-South
Sacramento, CA 95825-8202



Established in 1938

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

JENNIFER LUCCHESI, *Executive Officer*
(916) 574-1800 Fax (916) 574-1810
California Relay Service TDD Phone 1-800-735-2929
from Voice Phone 1-800-735-2922

Contact Phone: (916) 574-1890

File Ref: PRC 145.1
PRC 410.1
PRC 1466.1

Title: PREPARATION OF RINCON ISLAND AND ASSOCIATED CAUSEWAY FOR CARETAKER STATUS

Location: Tide and submerged lands in the Pacific Ocean offshore Mussel Shoals, known as Rincon Island.

Description: With the completion of active well abandonment activities, the California State Lands Commission (CSLC or Commission) and their facilities operations contractor Driltek, are preparing Rincon Island and associated causeway for a Caretaker Status phase (Project). Caretaker Status is a condition where the subsurface well abandonments and any related surface abandonments have been completed in compliance with regulatory requirements. Under Caretaker Status the site will require limited surveillance to maintain its safety, security, and stability. On Rincon Island itself, the Project will include the demolition of the island's tank battery (6 tanks, piping, and flare structure); flushing and removal of oil and gas pipelines supporting the island; removal of the well bay back wall; backfill of the well bay and cellars; stormwater drain installation; demolition of the emergency generator house and electric submersible pump room; removal of unneeded electrical and support facilities; and replacement of 300 feet of security fencing that the foot of the causeway, connecting to shore. The Project is expected to begin February 14, 2021, and last through July 30, 2021. Equipment used in the Project include an excavator, 5k LP forklift, rock crusher, man lift, and light duty trucks.

Name of Approving Public Agency: California State Lands Commission

Name of Proponent (Person or Agency): California State Lands Commission

Exempt Status:

[√] Categorical Exemptions:

- CLASS 1, EXISTING FACILITIES (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14 § 15301)
- CLASS 2, REPLACEMENT OR RECONSTRUCTION (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, § 15302)
- CLASS 4, MINOR ALTERATIONS TO LAND (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, § 15304)

Reasons for exemption:

The Project is being undertaken by the Commission, on behalf of the State of California as part of the larger decommissioning of a former oil and gas operation after the insolvency of the private operator. The Project involves the removal of derelict and hazardous structures on State waterways and is anticipated to eliminate potential hazards to human health and safety. The Project seeks to eliminate and reduce the developmental footprint of the former oil and gas operation.

DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING AND POSTING BY THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF PLANNING AND RESEARCH

ERIC GILLIES, Assistant Chief
Environmental Planning and Management Division

Contact Person: Micaela Wiemer (916) 574-1900